

Remarks//Arguments:

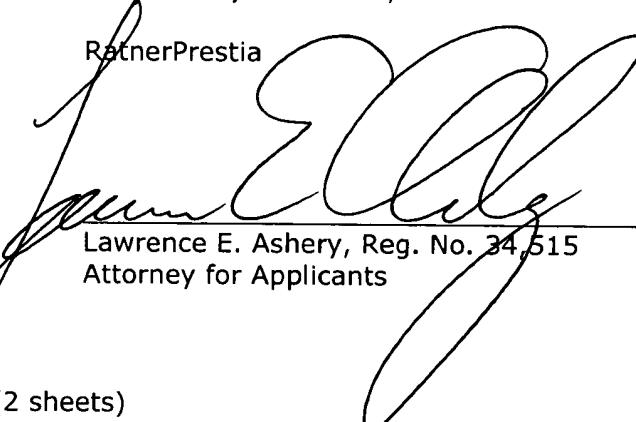
The drawings have been objected to. The drawings have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestia


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Attorney for Applicants

LEA/ds/kc

Attachments: Figures 2(A)-(C), 3(A)-(C) (2 sheets)

Dated: December 22, 2003

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

December 22, 2003